

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 10 and 12 have been amended and claims 2, 5, 11, 14 have been cancelled.

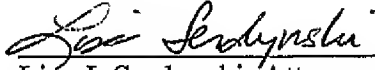
Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because there was insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "the output device." The claims have been to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Dratewski (US 2004/0067804). Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite an input device concentric with the output shaft and connected to the input shaft with a first flexible torque-transmitting element and an output device connected to the output shaft with a second flexible torque-transmitting element. Applicant respectfully disagrees with Examiner's characterization of Dratewski. Dratewski discloses an input shaft or drive shaft rotational axis 24 and an output shaft or a driven shaft rotational axis 26. A plurality of drive elements 38 are mounted on the drive shaft 24 and a plurality of driven elements 40 are mounted on the driven shaft 26. An input device or drive shaft 25 is concentric with the input shaft or drive shaft rotational axis 24. Accordingly, Dratewski fails to disclose an input device concentric with the output shaft and connected to the input shaft with a first flexible torque-transmitting element as claimed in the present invention. For this reason, the rejection of claims 1 and 10 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-9 and 11-18 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a). Since claims 2-9 and 11-18 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of either amended claim 1 or amended claim 10, they are felt to overcome the rejection in the same manner as amended claim 1 or amended claim 10.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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